AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Canceled).

2. (Previously Presented) The vacuum-operated trash receptacle of claim 20 wherein said plurality of apertures comprises a plurality of elongated openings provided in spaced-apart relationship with respect to each other in said liner.

3. (Currently Amended) The vacuum-operated trash receptacle of claim 20 wherein said container is further defined by a container bottom closing one end of said container wall and wherein said means for withdrawing air ~~vacuum-producing device~~ is provided on said container bottom.

4. (Previously Presented) The vacuum-operated trash receptacle of claim 2 wherein said plurality of elongated openings extend in a direction between said rim and said closed liner bottom provided in spaced-apart relationship with respect to each other in said liner.

5. (Previously Presented) The vacuum-operated trash receptacle of claim 20 wherein said container has a container bottom closing a first end of said tubular wall and wherein said means for withdrawing air is provided on said tubular wall.

6. (Previously Presented) The vacuum-operated trash receptacle of claim 20 wherein said plurality of apertures is provided in spaced-apart parallel relationship with respect to each other in said liner.

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7. (Canceled).

8. (Previously Presented) The vacuum-operated trash receptacle of claim 20 further comprising a perforated container lid; the container further including a closed bottom and a container flange extending around an end of the tubular wall opposite the closed bottom; and

the closed liner bottom spaced from said container closed bottom to define the annular space and

a liner flange provided on the rim of the liner wall, the liner flange structured and arranged to engage the container flange for removably receiving the container lid; and

wherein said means for withdrawing air is mounted on said container closed bottom.

9. (Previously Presented) The vacuum-operated trash receptacle of claim 20 comprising a perforated container lid; the container further including a container flange extending around an end of said tubular wall opposite a closed bottom end, and

said liner further including a liner flange on the rim, said liner wall spaced from said tubular wall to define said annular space and

said liner flange structured and arranged to engage container flange for removably receiving said container lid; and

wherein said means for withdrawing air is mounted on said container wall.

10-19. (Canceled).

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20. (Currently Amended) A vacuum-operated trash receptacle comprising:

a container having a tubular wall and an upper opening thereto through a rim of said wall;

a rigid liner having a tubular wall, a top opening at a rim of said wall, and a closed bottom and disposed for placement in said container through the opening of the container so as to places the container and liner rims in sealing contact at upper portions thereof when the liner is inserted in the container;

said liner adapted for receiving a trash bag through the opening of said liner;

said liner dimensioned for insertion within said container with said liner opening in a fixed relation to said container opening and to thereby form an annular space between said liner wall and said container wall, the annular space terminating and sealed at the upper portions in contact;

said liner wall having a plurality of apertures around and down its tubular wall from a location proximate said opening to a location proximate said closed bottom, said ~~openings~~ apertures communicating from the interior of said liner to said annular space when said liner is inserted into said container;

an exhaust aperture through the container; and

air blower means for withdrawing air from said annular space solely through the liner apertures through said container exhaust aperture wherein air pressure is reduced in said annular space and the trash bag is ~~forcefully deployed~~simultaneously held against and deployed progressively down said liner wall solely responsive to operation of said air withdrawing means whereby the deployment of said bag against said liner wall retains upper portions of said

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bag proximate said liner rim as said bag is deployed down said liner wall.

21. (Currently Amended) A rigid liner for a vacuum-operated trash receptacle container, said container having a tubular wall and an upper opening thereto through a rim of said wall and a closed bottom, an aperture through one of said container wall and bottom, and air blower means for withdrawing air through the aperture, said liner comprising:

a tubular wall and having a top opening at a rim of said wall thereof and a closed bottom and disposed for placement in said container through the opening of said container with said container and liner rims in sealing contact at upper portions thereof when the liner is inserted in the container;

said liner adapted for receiving a trash bag through the opening of said liner;

said liner dimensioned for insertion within said container with said liner opening in a fixed relation to said container opening and to thereby form an annular space between said liner wall and said container wall from a location proximate to the opening, the annular space terminating and sealed at the upper portions in contact;

said liner wall having a plurality of apertures around and down its tubular wall, said ~~openings~~ apertures communicating from the interior of said liner to said annular space when said liner is inserted into said container;

wherein in operation air pressure is reduced in said annular space by said air withdrawing means and the trash bag is ~~forcefully deployed~~simultaneously held against and deployed progressively down said liner solely responsive to operation of

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said air withdrawing means whereby the deployment of said bag against said liner wall retains upper portions of said bag proximate said liner rim as said bag is deployed down said liner wall.

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